REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in response to the Examiner's Action dated March 21, 2005. Applicants have amended the claims by combining features of multiple dependent claims into their respective independent claims and adding additional features of Applicants' invention to the independent claims. Applicants have further added new claims covering features described within Applicants' specification that were not previously claimed. No new matter has been added, and the amendments overcome the claim rejections and place the claims in better condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments to the claims. The discussion/arguments provided below reference the claims in their amended form.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

At paragraph 1 of the present Office Action, the abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it exceeds 150 words. Further, at paragraph 2 of the present Office Action, the disclosure is objected to because of informalities. Accordingly, Applicants have reviewed the specification and abstract and provided corrections thereto. Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments to the abstract and specification.

CLAIMS REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

At paragraph 3 of the present Office Action, Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Cowan, et al. ("On-Chip Repair and an ATE Independent Fusing Methodology"). Cowan does not anticipate Applicants' claimed invention because Cowan does not teach each feature recited by Applicants' claims. As noted above, Applicants have provided additional features within each independent claim. None of these additional features are taught (nor suggested) by Cowan. The standard for a § 102 rejection requires that the reference teach each element recited in the claims set forth within the invention. With the added claim features, Cowan fails to meet this standard and therefore does not anticipate Applicants' invention.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have diligently responded to the Office Action by amending the specification and abstract to overcome the objections. Applicants have also amended the claims to overcome the §102 rejection. Since the claim amendments overcome the §102 rejections, Applicants, respectfully request issuance of a Notice of Allowance for all claims now pending.

Applicants further respectfully request the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney of record at 512.343.6116 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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